UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Belmont
Mohr
DeLoach
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Evans
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: October 9, 1964

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

BACKGROUND:

My memorandum 10-8-64 recommended that we instruct SAC Shanklin, Dallas, to contact Chief of Police Jesse Curry, Dallas, and forcibly tell him he had once again deliberately or intentionally lied about the FBI's actions in connection with captioned case. Briefly, as expressed in referenced memorandum of 10-8-64, Curry is quoted as saying the FBI, immediately following the assassination of the President (in the form of a telephone call from SAC Shanklin to Chief Curry) asked him to cover up by going back on television and stating that the FBI had not known that Oswald was in Dallas, Texas. The true facts of the matter are that after Curry appeared on television 11-23-63 I called SAC Shanklin and asked him to contact Curry and tell him he must get back on television and correct his allegations insofar as the FBI's interviewing or surveilling Oswald in Dallas was concerned. Curry had alleged that we had both interviewed and surveilled Oswald in Dallas. Shanklin followed through and Chief Curry did get back on television at approximately 1:15 p.m., 11-23-63, and admit that his earlier allegations were wrong. The purpose of SAC Shanklin's contact today, 10-9-64, with Curry was to tell him once again that he had intentionally or erroneously misinterpreted the subject of SAC Shanklin's call to him as of 11-23-63 in that at no time had the FBI asked Chief Curry to cover up for us.

SAC Shanklin did see Curry this morning at the Adolphus Hotel. A Special Agent from the Dallas Office accompanied Shanklin so that a witness would be present. SAC Shanklin laid the facts on the line to Curry and Curry admitted that he was wrong in the assumption that the FBI had asked him to cover up. SAC Shanklin told him that in all fairness he should go back to news sources and admit his error in this regard. Chief Curry told Shanklin that he personally was willing to do this, however, City Manager Elgin C. Crull had specifically instructed him not to make any further statements in connection with this case. Chief Curry promised Shanklin that he would see the City Manager and ask his permission to correct this "misunderstanding." I told Shanklin when he called to report the above facts that if Chief Curry did not call him back by 4:00 p.m. today he should call Curry.

EC-15

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Jones
1 - Mr. Tolson

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DeLoach to Mohr 10-9-6
Re: Assassination of the President

Chief Curry called SAC Shanklin at approximately 2:00 p.m. today and stated he had talked with the City Manager and the City Manager had told him that he had already opened his mouth too many times in this case and that he should make no further statements. Chief Curry stated that his hands were tied and that he could not say anything to the news services. I told Shanklin to stand by, that we would be back in touch with him.

COURSE OF ACTION:

It seems that we have two alternatives:

(1) We can issue a statement under the Director's name from Washington which was approved by the Director yesterday, 10-8-64, and which will be found attached to this memorandum. There are now disadvantages to doing this. The press has not picked up Chief Curry's erroneous statement in any way whatsoever. As a matter of fact, we have not even had a single inquiry. For the Director to issue a statement to the wire services in Washington would only serve to raise this entire matter on a nationwide basis. It is not believed this is a wise course of action. We should, of course, definitely go on record with the Warren Commission indicating that Chief Curry has once again stuck his foot in his mouth and has lied concerning the FBI's actions.

(2) We can have SAC Shanklin see City Manager Crull and advise him of the so-called "misunderstanding" as voiced by Chief Curry and of the fact that Chief Curry has admitted his fault in this regard. SAC Shanklin can tell Crull that in all honesty it would seem that Crull would allow Chief Curry to answer a single question from a United Press reporter setting the record straight once and for all that the FBI had not asked Curry or anyone else at any time to cover up the fact that we knew Oswald was in Dallas.

SAC Shanklin described City Manager Crull as a decent sort of individual, however, is unable to venture an opinion as to whether Crull will go along with us on this or not. If Crull does not permit Chief Curry to make a statement we will then go to our good friend [redacted] United Press International, here in Washington and relate the entire circumstances to him and UPI will put out a release in Dallas reflecting that Chief Curry has admitted his guilt and that the FBI at no time attempted a cover up.

ACTION:

That we have SAC Shanklin immediately see City Manager Crull concerning the above matter.